



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
State Laboratory Institute
305 South Street, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
617-983-6800

MITT ROMNEY
GOVERNOR

KERRY HEALEY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY R. MURPHY
SECRETARY

PAUL J. COTE, JR.
COMMISSIONER

Memorandum

To: Private Providers of Clinical Services for Adults

CC: Health Plans and Health Insurers

From: Robert W. Morrison, Vaccine Manager

Date: April 2006

Subject: Availability of Influenza Vaccine for the 2006-07 Flu Season

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) Immunization Program is preparing to place influenza vaccine orders for the 2006-07 flu season. Because of vaccine price increases and expanded pediatric recommendations, MDPH has not finalized the amount of influenza vaccine that will be provided for adults seen at private provider sites. At the present time we are prioritizing state-supplied influenza vaccine for distribution to pediatric providers, long-term care facilities, local boards of health, community health centers, and visiting nurse associations. If you are a private provider of health care to adults, we suggest that you start planning now for the next flu season. Providers should determine how much vaccine they will need for their adult patients and employees in 2006-07, and place their orders for vaccine with manufacturers or distributors as soon as possible. Listed below are the influenza vaccine products available and the age indications for each:

Manufacturer	Contact Information	Vaccine	Formulation	Thimerosal Preservative	Age Group
Chiron Corporation	800-244-7668 www.chiron.com	Fluvirin™ trivalent inactivated influenza vaccine (TIV)	Multidose vial	Yes	≥ 4 y/o
			Single-dose prefilled 0.5 mL syringe	No*	≥ 4 y/o
GlaxoSmithKline, Inc	866-475-8222 www.gsk.com	Fluarix™ TIV	Single-dose prefilled 0.5 mL syringe	No*	≥ 18 y/o
Sanofi Pasteur, Inc.**	800-822-2463 www.vaccineshoppe.com	Fluzone® TIV	Multidose vial	Yes	≥ 6 mos
			Single-dose prefilled 0.5 mL syringe or vial	No	≥ 36 mos
			Single-dose prefilled 0.25 mL syringe	No	6-35 mos
MedImmune Vaccines, Inc.	877-358-6478 www.flumist.com	FluMist™ live, attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV)	Single-dose nasal sprayer	No	Healthy, nonpregnant persons 5 – 49 y/o

*These preparations contain traces of thimerosal from the production process.

** All formulations except 0.25 ml syringes have been pre-booked.

Flu vaccine can also be purchased from vaccine distributors. A list of influenza vaccine distributors can be found at the Health Industries Distributors Association (HIDA) web page (http://www.hida.org/document.asp?document_id=10082).

Providers should submit orders for privately purchased influenza vaccine as soon as possible. The earlier orders are submitted, the better your chances are of obtaining doses early in the season.

For state-supplied influenza vaccine, providers will be notified what their allocation of doses will be by early summer.